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Mr. Angus Thuermer  
Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

3 April 75

Dear Mr. Thuermer:

Thanks for taking the time to give me the information you did on the phone yesterday (which was primarily Mr. Colby's refusal to release the information I requested), and for promising to send me Mr. Colby's statements before Congress on the subject.

However, the information you have provided and which you indicated will be forthcoming does not answer my questions. I feel that full and frank answers would be in the public interest, and that the government has no right to withhold such information from me. Accordingly, I am formally requesting the information under 5 USC 552, the Federal Freedom of Information Act.

Specifically, I would like access to all records which indicate, describe, or enumerate:

(1) All local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in or under the jurisdiction of the United States or any of the States or Territories, or any political subdivisions thereof, which have received training, assistance or equipment and/or whose personnel have received training, assistance, or equipment, including but not limited to financial assistance or support, instruction, classes or courses of study, seminars, demonstrations, educational or training materials, or practical experience in the application of such training, assistance, or equipment from the Central Intelligence Agency since the establishment of that agency;

(2) A description of such training, assistance, or equipment, including but not limited to: course titles, descriptions, outlines, lesson plans, and written, filmed, or taped instructional materials; nature, purpose, and extent of such training, assistance, or equipment; including capabilities and probable or intended applications of such training, assistance, or equipment;

(3) All information or access to such information provided to law enforcement agencies as described in item (1) above;

(4) The names of all persons receiving such training, assistance or equipment described in item (1) above;

(5) The names and official titles of persons initiating or arranging such training, and their roles in initiating or arranging the provision by the CIA, and receipt by law enforcement agencies and/or their personnel or officials of such training, assistance, or equipment.

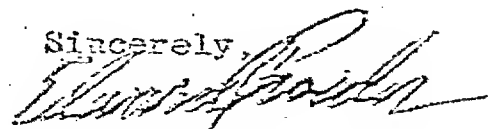
which requires the Director of Central Intelligence to — I believe you put it — "protect sources." Please be assured that I am not seeking the names of, or information about CIA sources. I realize that it is conceivable that some of the information made accessible in response could include the names of sources. But they need not be identified as sources, and I would not have been provided with any means of determining which, if any, were in fact sources. I am seeking to know who, and which agencies, were recipients of CIA information, training, assistance, and equipment. (If I requested a list of reporters to whom you had provided information over the past year, it is conceivable that I might get a list which would include some who have provided information to you. But as with this request, I would have no way of knowing which reporters were sources. I would only know which were recipients of information.)

I earn my living as an independent journalist, and denial of access to this information (including delay of access which, for a time at least, constitutes denial of access) costs me money, time, and stories. I would very much appreciate your expeditious response to this request.

If for any reason you feel it is necessary to decline any part of this request, please fulfill the remaining parts which you do not feel you have to decline.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Edward Roeder

MARK H. LYNCH

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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(202) 785-3704

May 20, 1975

Information Review Committee  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Re: Freedom of Information Appeal

Dear Sirs:

This letter is written on behalf of Mr. Edward Roeder. By letter dated April 3, 1975 and addressed to Mr. Angus Thuermer, Assistant to the Director, Mr. Roeder requested, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. §552, access to all records concerning any training, assistance, or equipment provided by the Central Intelligence Agency to any local, state, or federal law enforcement agency in or under the jurisdiction of the United States or any of the states, territories, or the District of Columbia. By letter dated April 15, 1975, Mr. Robert S. Young, Freedom of Information Coordinator, acknowledged that he had received Mr. Roeder's letter on April 7, 1975. By letter dated April 24, 1975--three days after the time for an initial response had expired--Mr. Young wrote that the Agency had not completed processing the request and asked for additional time to continue searching for documents and reviewing any located documents. Mr. Young also stated that Mr. Roeder's request "involves a subject not covered by our indexing systems." We deem this letter to be an extension for ten working days because of unusual circumstances as provided by section 552(a)(6)(B). (Copies of this correspondence are enclosed.)

Six weeks have now elapsed since the Agency received Mr. Roeder's request. This amount of time far exceeds the outer limits provided in the statute, and we therefore deem this unreasonable delay to be an initial denial from which we now appeal. We find it particularly difficult to understand why the Agency's indexing system does not provide ready access to records concerning a program to provide assistance to other federal, state, or local agencies.

Under the terms of the statute, 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(6)(A)(ii), we expect a determination on this appeal within twenty working days.

Sincerely,

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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1 July 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Appeal of Edward Roeder (IRS 75-751)

On 30 June 1975, I spoke with Mark Lynch, Esq., about the status of the FOIA appeal of his client, Mr. Edward Roeder, for all records concerning any training, assistance or equipment provided by CIA to any local, state or federal law enforcement agency in the United States. I told him that an additional 25 documents would be released with deletions and that this brought us one quarter of the way towards completion of his client's FOIA request. I further indicated that we hope to have most of the rest of the documents reviewed at the end of 2 1/2 weeks. Mr. Lynch saw no problem and only asked that we reconsider the nine documents previously sent him to ascertain whether, based on our recent decision regarding releasability of the names of police departments, any additional information could be released.

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cc: DDA  
AI/DDA  
C/IRS  
OS